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17555 PEAK AVENUE MORGAN HILL, CALIFORNIA 95037

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**CITY OF MORGAN HILL**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**May 18, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Hardt-Mason called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE**

Present: Chair Hardt-Mason, Vice Chair Leiser, Commissioner Cheek, Commissioner van Keulen;  
Absent: Commissioner Aragon

**DECLARATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA**

Chair Hardt-Mason certified that the meeting agenda was duly noticed and posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jeff Dixon, president of the Morgan Hill Youth Sports Alliance, said that the City Council would meet on Wednesday May 19, 2010 to discuss the proposal process of awarding the management contract for the Outdoor Sports Center. He said he had no new information to present the PRC members about this.

He mentioned marketing and fundraising efforts by the MHYSA including putting an advertisement in the Val-Pak mailers in the next few months. Also, The MHYSA will hold a Sports Grandprix Day of Sports event at the OSC on July 17, 2010. It will include carnival games, jump hoses, games, live music, raffles, flag football tournaments, football camp, disc golf, gymnastics, cheer, martial arts, skating, sports demonstrations and more. The proceeds will raise money (hopefully as much as \$10,000) for athletic scholarships and financial aid to support kids participating in local area sports programs.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Vice Chair Leiser made a motion to adopt the agenda. Chair Hardt-Mason seconded the motion. Motion carried (4:0)

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON MARCH 16, 2010 AND  
THE SPECIAL MEETING ON APRIL 20, 2010.**

Commissioner Van Keulen made a motion to approve the minutes. Vice Chair Leiser seconded the motion. Motion carried (3:0). Commissioner Cheek abstained because he had not read the minutes.

## **BUSINESS**

### **2. CHAIRPERSON TWO-YEAR TERM**

**Recommended Actions:** adopt a two-year term for the Chairperson.

Chair Hardt-Mason said she would like to keep her present Chair position for an additional year. Commissioner van Keulen said would like to serve as “Co-vice chair” with Commissioner Leiser. Commissioner van Keulen motioned to adopt a two-year term for the Chairperson. Vice Chair Leiser seconded the motion.

Motion carried (4:0)

### **3. MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON REPORT**

**Recommended Actions:** receive report

Chair Hardt-Mason said there was no report due to the recent Live Oak High School situation. Hardt-Mason and Van Keulen said they decided not to meet with Superintendent Wes Smith this month because he is busy with the Live Oak High School situation.

Commissioner Cheek said he would meet with Smith on Thursday May 20 and he would mention that the PRC members will meet with him about the liaison report later when things at the school district settle down.

### **4. WORKPLAN**

**Recommended Action:** review and approve

Chair Hardt-Mason presented the modified Workplan for 2010-2011 which is tighter and more doable than previous Workplans. She recommended the two new PRC members get involved in the committees when they start in July.

Commissioner Cheek praised Hardt-Mason for her work in simplifying and clarifying the Workplan.

Commissioner Van Keulen made a motion to accept the recommended action and approve the report and send it to the City Council for its approval. Commissioner Cheek seconded the motion.

Motion carried (4:0)

### **5. CITY BUDGET**

**Information Only.**

Director of Recreation and Community Service Steve Rymer and Director of Public Works Jim Ashcraft presented Parks and Recreation Department-relevant information related to the 2010-2011 City Budget (which will equal about \$150 million). The City Council is scheduled to vote on this budget at the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Rymer said that there will be a budget workshop open to the public on May 28<sup>th</sup> at the

Community and Cultural Center. On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, a formal public hearing will be held at the City Council meeting.

After Rymer's presentation, Mayor Steve Tate made a short presentation about the two new PRC members who will start in July. He apologized that they were not invited to the May meeting to attend as non-members. He encouraged Chair Hardt-Mason, Rymer and the two new commissioners to get together in the mean time and see how the two new members can participate in the Workplan.

Highlights of Rymer and Ashcraft's presentation include:

- Making it a top priority to reduce the labor cost structure
- Have minimal impact on the quality of service
- Reducing city's budget for the Senior Center budget by half (this will equal about \$37,000)
- Reduction of the Teen Center hours at the CRC.
- Cut the Youth Advisory Club's Roofless Concert and Fashion Show (but still retain the Senior Ball and the Youth Leadership Program)
- Close the Community and Cultural Center on Mondays and Tuesdays (which are days the center is "lightly" used)
- Enhance revenue-generating by \$317,000 of Parks and Recreation Department facilities and programs
- Improve energy efficiency at facilities through new equipment and better management
- Achieve a cost recovery rate of 93 percent
- Cut employees by half a position
- Recommended one seasonal contract laborer (for spring)
- Mow grass every two weeks instead of every week at City parks and facilities
- Have Public Works stop maintaining downtown flower box irrigation repair – the Downtown Association will take over using RDA money)
- Hire no replacement for Mori Struve, former Deputy Director of Public Works, who retired recently.

Vice Chair Leiser asked Rymer if the entrance lobby area of the CRC is open to everyone. She suggested letting senior citizens and other people use this area to hang out. She also recommended the City's looking into installing covered solar panels over parking lot to generate electricity for facilities. Rymer said his department had looked into this and the payback period would be too long to make it economically practical. Leiser suggested the CRC providing ping-pong facilities as this is a popular sport now and might attract membership.

Commissioner Van Keulen discussed an "adopt a park" program that would encourage volunteers to help maintain city parks. Ashcraft said that Park Supervisor Anne Beale is developing volunteer programs for the City.

Commissioner Cheek suggested that the Volunteer Morgan Hill non-profit organization might want to be involved in developing volunteer efforts for the City's Parks and Recreation Department. Jeff Dixon in the audience mentioned that on May 26 at 5:30 p.m., Volunteer Morgan Hill would have a special meeting at the CCC which would discuss exploring use of volunteering – including with park maintenance.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Cheek said that he had discussed with resident Nathan Benich that the Acquatics Center pool schedule can be confusing. Steve Rymer said he would contact Benich and see ways to improve the scheduling so that the posted hours are clearer.

## **FUTURE COMMISSION INITIATED AGENDA ITEMS:**

Note: in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a), there shall be no discussion, debate and/or action taken on any request other than providing direction to staff to place the matter of business on a future agenda.

Chair Hardt-Mason requested that discussion and approval of the PRC Workplan be place on the July agenda.

Vice Chair Leiser requested that City Staff provide an update on the Outdoor Sports Complex operations contract at the July meeting.

Chair Hardt-Mason requested that discussion and approval on the PRC vice chair position be place on the July agenda.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Hardt-Mason adjourned the meeting **at 8:00 p.m.** to the next Regular Parks & Recreation Commission meeting on **July 20, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.** in City Council Chambers, City Hall, 17555 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill.

## **MINUTES RECORDED and PREPARED BY:**

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PRC COMMISSIONER MARTIN CHEEK